

## Message Text

SECRET

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S E C R E T STATE 086258

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (OMISSION OF DRAFTER)  
E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, UR, GW

SUBJECT: SOVIET NOTE ON U.S. MP PATROLS IN EAST BERLIN

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF STATEMENT TURNED OVER TO THE  
SECRETARY BY SOVIET AMBASSADOR DOBRYNIN APRIL 15.  
BEGIN TEXT. IN JUNE OF LAST YEAR THE SOVIET SIDE RAISED  
WITH THE AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION THE QUESTION OF CESSATION  
OF THE PRACTICE OF PATROLLING THE TERRITORY OF CAPITAL OF  
THE GDR BY AUTOMOBILES OF THE MILITARY POLICE OF THE  
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AMERICAN GARRISON IN WEST BERLIN. UNFORTUNATELY WE HAVE  
HAD NO REACTION WHATEVER TO THIS APPROACH UP UNTIL NOW.  
AT THE SAME TIME, JUDGING BY THE INFORMATION AT HAND, THE  
SCALE OF THE PATROLLING IS NOT BEING CUT BACK AND HAS  
EVEN INCREASED IN RECENT MONTHS. THE PATROLLING IS CARRIED  
OUT IN A CLEARLY DEMONSTRATIVE FORM: AMERICAN MILITARY  
AUTOMOBILES CARRY OUT REGULAR TOURS OF THE CENTRAL STREETS

OF THE CAPITAL OF THE GDR, CARRY OUT OPEN OBSERVATION OF GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS AND OTHER OFFICIAL OBJECTS OF THE GDR, ETC. ALL OF THIS CAUSES UNDERSTANDABLE ANNOYANCE ON THE PART OF THE AUTHORITIES OF THE GDR AND THE LOCAL POPULATION.

2. WE HAVE ALREADY NOTED THAT WE ARE NOT RAISING A QUESTION OF A CHANGE IN THE PROCEDURE FOR CROSSING THE BORDER OF THE CAPITAL OF THE GDR AND WEST BERLIN BY OTHER MILITARY PERSONNEL OF THE THREE STATES. HOWEVER, PATROLLING MUST CEASE. THERE ARE NO FOUR POWER AGREEMENTS AND DECISIONS WHICH GIVE THE THREE STATES THE RIGHT TO POLICE PATROL SERVICE IN THE CAPITAL OF THE GDR. IT WAS INTRODUCED AS AN ACCOMPLISHED FACT. AND SUCH PATROLLING IS SENSELESS FROM A PRACTICAL POINT OF VIEW SINCE THE AMERICAN MILITARY POLICE CANNOT CARRY OUT ANY KIND OF OFFICIAL ACTS ON THE TERRITORY OF THE CAPITAL OF THE GDR, INCLUDING ACTS RELATING TO AMERICAN MILITARY PERSONNEL PERIODICALLY VISITING IT.

3. WE EXPRESS THE HOPE THAT THE AMERICAN SIDE WILL DEMONSTRATE UNDERSTANDING OF OUR POSITION AND STEPS WILL BE TAKEN IN THE NEAREST FUTURE TO GRADUALLY REDUCE THE ABOVE MENTIONED PATROLLING; WHICH ALSO DOES NOT CORRESPOND TO FOUR POWER PRACTICE. SOVIET MILITARY AUTOMOBILES, AS IS KNOWN, DO NOT PATROL WEST BERLIN. OUR MILITARY PERSONNEL TRAVEL BACK AND FORTH EITHER TO OBJECTS WHERE THEY ARE CARRYING ON SERVICE (BERLIN AIR SAFETY CENTER, SPANDAU PRISON, THE MONUMENT TO SOVIET TROOPS IN  
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THE TIERGARTEN) OR ON NORMAL ORIENTATION EXCURSIONS.

4. THE SOVIET SIDE, IT IS UNDERSTOOD, RESERVES THE RIGHT TO TAKE NECESSARY STEPS DEPENDING ON THE REACTION TO ITS APPROACH. IT IS OUR CONVICTION THAT, IN THE INTERESTS OF THE SIDES AND IN THE INTERESTS OF MAINTAINING BUSINESS-LIKE CONTACTS ON WEST BERLIN, IT WOULD BE EXPEDIENT TO RESOLVE THIS QUESTION ON A RATIONAL BASIS, NOT ATTRACTING UNNECESSARY ATTENTION TO IT AND NOT GIVING OCCASION FOR THE OCCURRENCE OF MISUNDERSTANDINGS AND DEBATES. END TEXT.

5. PENDING RECEIPT OF INSTRUCTIONS, SOVIET DEMARCHE SHOULD NOT BE DISCUSSED WITH HOST GOVERNMENT OR THIRD PARTIES. INTERIM COMMENTS FROM ADDRESSEES WOULD BE WELCOME.

CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Type:** TE  
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